



November 1991

United Nations International Drug Control Programme

P.O. Box 500, A-1400 Vienna, Austria

information letter

INCB Urges Compliance With Drug Control Treaties

Measures to ensure the implementation of the international drug control treaties and to improve compliance were considered at the 50th session of the International Narcotics Control Board, held from 7 to 24 October 1991 at Vienna.

At present, the international drug control system is governed by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances and the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Sub-

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Commission's Membership Enlarged from 40 to 53

Thirteen States will be elected as new members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session in February 1992.

The decision to enlarge the Commission's membership from 40 to 53 States was taken by the Council at its resumed first regular session held from 17 to 21 June 1991 in New York.

The 13 new seats would be distributed as follows: four seats for the African Group; three seats for the Asian Group; three seats for the Latin American and

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Executive Director Outlines Strategy At General Assembly

Introducing for the first time the item on narcotic drugs before the Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) of the General Assembly, on 31 October 1991, UNDCP Executive Director Giorgio Giacomelli reported on progress

Deliberations on international drug control will be summarized in the next issue of the Information Letter.



Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen (left) met with the UNDCP Executive Director on 3 October 1991 at the Vienna International Centre. They discussed ways and means of enhancing cooperation between China and the Programme. The problem of heroin traffic in the Golden Triangle, particularly through the China/Myanmar border, was also addressed. The Executive Director expressed satisfaction over China's readiness to accept a two-pronged approach proposed by UNDCP consisting of combining both bilateral and subregional elements.

made in the establishment of a single United Nations drug control structure and on activities undertaken by the Programme throughout the world.

The Executive Director also outlined the mandates entrusted to UNDCP, its strategic directions and future priorities. He called for resources commensurate with the task at hand and distributed in a balanced way to meet pressing needs.

He gave a brief overview of the documents submitted to the Committee.

(See excerpts of his statement on page 3.)

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INCB Urges Compliance...

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stances.

The Board examined the report of the preparatory session of its Advisory Expert Group (AEG) on the Assessment of Substances under article 12 of the 1988 Convention. The Board is expected to review ten substances proposed by the United States for control under the 1988 Convention. To that end, the Board convened another meeting of its AEG in November 1991 to assist it in assessing those substances.

It further decided to hold a special session of the Board itself in January 1992. The results of the Board's assessment including the likely effect of adding the substances to either Table I or Table II of the 1988 Convention on both licit use and illicit manufacture, will be reported to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

It also reviewed its extrabudgetary programmes, particularly the programme of assistance to African States for the establishment of legislative and administrative structures to enable national compliance with the international drug control treaties.

The Board studied the demand for and supply of opiates for medical needs and reviewed annual estimates, submitted by 124 countries, of requirements of narcotic drugs, opium production and manufacture of synthetic drugs for 1992. Concern was expressed about the large number of countries and territories which failed to provide estimates for 1992. Estimates for 48 countries and territories had to be established by the Board.

Also addressed were issues pertaining to the functioning of the international control system for psychotropic substances. The Board paid special attention to measures aimed at preventing diversion of psychotropic substances from licit manufacture and trade into the illicit traffic.

During the session, the Board examined its draft report for 1991 which, together with its technical supplements, will be ready for distribution to Governments before the end of the year.

The Board's 1991 Report (E/INCB/1991/1) will be submitted to the Council in 1992 through the Commission.

New Legal Assistance to Africa

UNDCP has launched an original operation in Africa leading to the merging of national legislation and to their harmonization at the regional level.

Increased quantities of heroin and cocaine are transiting through Africa before reaching markets in Western Europe, thereby augmenting consumption risks in the region. In addition, cannabis production and consumption are growing hand in hand with the abuse in psychotropic substances.

The Programme is to provide legal assistance to members of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) to enable them to update and harmonize their drug-related legislation to enhance regional cooperation.

Established in 1981, the Libreville-based ECCAS is composed of Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Central African Republic, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, Sao Tomé and Principe and Zaïre. Angola participates as an observer.

A cost-effective, common approach adopted by the Programme aims at achieving regional integration in matters of drug control by harmonizing national legislation of all countries in that part of Africa. Attention would have to be given to the review of the situation in the region,

identification of focal points in each country and agreement on the principle of a common approach with a view to achieving adherence to the 1988 UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

The project is based on two major elements: training and research. A small team of African lawyers, with full knowledge of legislation matters, is to receive a specialized common training to ensure cohesion in the formulation and adoption of harmonized legislation. In addition, research should be conducted to determine an African approach to treatment and law enforcement, based on local realities. In this context, studies should be conducted on African traditional medicine.

Proposing model legislation in association with a regional organization to African States has several advantages: it saves time and resources and leads to a true harmonization of texts. Such model legislation would be better received by Governments in the region because it would be seen as a result of action undertaken by Africans themselves. This project would therefore constitute the cornerstone of UNDCP legal assistance in Africa.

Drug Control Project To be Launched in Algeria

On 10 October 1991, Ambassador Ahmed Amine Kherbi, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations at Vienna and UNDCP Executive Director Giorgio Giacomelli signed a document pertaining to a drug control project in Algeria.

The project aims at strengthening Algerian law enforcement agencies.

Activities to be undertaken in the context of this project include: the provision of equipment and material, training of staff, and advisory services.

This project of the Algerian Government is funded by UNDCP. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) will provide the administrative services related to the project's execution.

Italy Contributes \$31.6 Mio. to UNDCP

Italy contributed, in October 1991, 40 billion Italian lire (US\$ 31.6 million) to UNDCP to enhance the Programme's technical cooperation activities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Latin America.

The contribution confirms the priority given by the Italian Government to international action, under the aegis of UNDCP, against the scourge of illicit drug trafficking and abuse.

Over the past few years, Italy has become the main donor country to United Nations drug control activities.

Excerpts of Executive Director's Statement before GA Third Committee

"This Committee has played a major role in the long and complex process leading to the creation of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme. Although I address you for the first time, I am already familiar with your commitment to the values embodied in the new Programme, and I know I am among people who understand the cause of international drug abuse control. UNDCP and I personally are looking forward to benefitting from your wisdom and guidance.

"An examination of the various mandates entrusted to UNDCP shows how extremely broad is the range of responsibilities devolving upon the Programme - one of the broadest given to a United Nations programme at its inception. These mandates are embodied in far reaching and comprehensive international drug control treaties and instruments

"All these mandates pertain essentially to the three basic functions of the United Nations itself: as a meeting place, as the focal point for performing analytical and normative work through the gathering and analysis of information and the elaboration and adherence to norms, standards, rules and laws.

"UNDCP also has the exclusive responsibility to coordinate and provide effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities and coordinates and carries out comprehensive technical cooperation projects in the field of drug abuse control.

"When it adopted resolution 45/179, the Assembly had a vision which was both ambitious and realistic in recognizing that only a global effort - in which the United Nations would have the role of catalyst and coordinator - can meet the expectations and needs of the international community.

"Let me note in passing, Mr. Chairman, that now that the cold war divisions, confrontations and polarization are behind us, and a new, enhanced role is being sought for the United Nations, now that in the specific area of illicit drugs finger-pointing and mutual attribution of blame has been largely replaced by a more balanced approach and an acceptance of the shared responsibility of all nations, there seems to be a more compelling sense of urgency about addressing the problem and a recognition that new multilateral action against drugs presents an opportunity for their more effective international control.

"From the review process of the work carried out in the past and of the various mandates, the vision that has emerged for our strategic direction is the following:

1. UNDCP is meant to be the worldwide centre of expertise and repository of information. To this end it is to collect, analyse and disseminate data, information and experience in all fields of drug control;

2. UNDCP is to carry out the Secretary-General's functions under the international drug control conventions and assists the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board in implementing their treaty-based functions of ensuring compliance with the conventions and furthering their purposes, and in promoting new instruments as needed;

3. UNDCP must play a major role in anticipating the development of phenomena which could create or aggravate illicit drug production, trafficking and abuse, and in mobilizing and supporting remedial measures in a timely fashion; in other

words, besides coping with crisis situations, it should be able to carry out preventive action;

4. UNDCP is to provide technical assistance through expertise and training to help governments in setting up adequate drug control structures and to define comprehensive national and regional masterplans;

5. UNDCP is to provide technical cooperation in the different fields of drug control with a view to elaborating common methodologies and approaches;

6. UNDCP is to assist governments in the development of subregional initiatives and plans of action with the basic concept - as endorsed by the General Assembly last year - of joint operations between concerned countries;

7. As required by resolution 45/179, UNDCP must assume the exclusive responsibility for coordinating and providing effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities.

"Let me expand somewhat on the last point which, in my view, encompasses one of the most important and most challenging tasks of the Programme. The drug problem is so pervasive that international development assistance should now have a drug-conscious dimension. The United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, now integrated into UNDCP, has in the past supported a wide range of comprehensive projects aimed at undermining drug dependency; but the resources of UNDCP are limited - our operational budget was only US\$ 71 million in 1991. Alone, UNDCP can, in many cases, do little more than show the way to alternative development.

"By contrast, the inclusion of the drug control dimension into the development projects of the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the regional development banks and other major financial or funding institutions, in fact all the major players - multilateral and bilateral - in cooperation with or under the aegis of UNDCP would go a long way toward reaching the critical mass necessary for impact and efficiency.

"The nations and citizens of the world are looking to the United Nations for assistance in a wide range of important areas, including international drug control. While I note that international drug control figures among the top priority programmes of the organization, I hope that the resources made available to us under the regular budget will be adequate to enable the Programme to discharge all of its functions effectively.

"If we are really serious about making a difference, it is both on the streets of our own cities and in distant producing countries that we should act - simultaneously and in a balanced way as I have mentioned earlier. That means, of course, that our resources should both be commensurate with the task at hand and distributed in a balanced way to respond to pressing needs, we must in other words both prevent dependence on drug abuse and dependence on cultivation of illicit drug crops.

"As was said by former President Virgilio Barco of Colombia at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly in 1989, 'the international fight against drugs cannot be a war of words.' Let us resolve that the words that we shall all be using here lead to action and that this action leads to success. Let us ensure that we do not let this further opportunity slip from our grasp."

Regional Meeting Urges Adherence to 1988 Convention

Drug law enforcement officers from 32 countries attended the Fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean (HONLAC) at Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, from 8 to 12 October 1991.

The meeting, which was organized by UNDCP, was opened by the Minister of Interior of Bolivia, Carlos Saavedra Bruno, on behalf of the host government.

Opening statements were also made by the Bolivian Under-Secretary for Social Defence, Gonzalo Torrico Flores, and by Michael Ayala, representative of the UNDCP Executive Director.

Elected officers were Gonzalo Torrico Flores (Bolivia), Chairman; Michel Diban Q. (Chile), José Miguel Rodríguez L. (Mexico), Enrique Rivas Gómez (Venezuela), Vice-Chairmen; and Dudley Walrond (Barbados), Rapporteur.

The meeting reviewed the current situation and most recent trends in the illicit traffic in the region and addressed

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IMO Hosts Inter-agency Meeting

Under the chairmanship of the UNDCP Executive Director, representatives from 12 UN entities and agencies met in London at the headquarters of the International Maritime Organization from 11 to 13 September 1991.

The Inter-agency Meeting on Coordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control focused attention on various aspects of coordination, including joint planning and programming, coordination at the field level, and a strengthened

information management system. Participants noted that UNDCP has created a new Division for Inter-organization Cooperation, which is to serve as the principal channel of communication.

Progress made in the implementation of GA resolution 45/179, the founding resolution for UNDCP, was outlined. Additional substantive discussions concentrated on demand reduction activities, including in particular developments relating to the International Drug Abuse Assessment System.

A draft version of the Secretary-General's 1991 Report to the General Assembly on international cooperation in drug abuse control was circulated at the meeting for review and updating.

Attention was also given to planned activities in connection with the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse.

A technical presentation, including a video programme on "An Industry at War - Defence Against Drug Traffickers", was made by the IMO.

Decade Coordinator Designated

A senior UNDCP official has been appointed Coordinator of the UN Decade against Drug Abuse (1991-2000). Luis Mañueco-Jenkins has been designated to facilitate, support and report on activities undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in observance of the Decade, under the general theme "Preventing Drug Abuse: All together against a Common Threat".

First UNDCP Field Advisers Seminar Held



UNDCP Field Advisers based in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean attended a seminar from 30 September to 4 October 1991 at Vienna. The seminar, which was the first to be held since the establishment of UNDCP, focussed on a wide range of matters, including the expanded role of field offices, regionalization strategy of the Programme's activities, project execution modalities and UNDCP/UNDP working arrangements. The Field Advisers Seminar was opened by UNDCP Executive Director, Giorgio Giacomelli. Pictured with Mr. Giacomelli are Field Advisers from Barbados, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Gabon, India, Kenya, Laos, Mexico, Myanmar, Pakistan and Thailand.

Colombia

Project Helps Reduce Farmers' Economic Dependence on Coca

UNDCP coca crop substitution project in the South of Cauca and the North of Nariño, Colombia, has made considerable progress in the achievement of its main goal.

The illicit coca cultivation in the project area has indeed been reduced by 30 per cent or 1,300 hectares through the voluntary collaboration of farmers.

In those areas where the project has been operational since its inception in 1985, the reduction of coca cultivation is between 60 and 70 per cent. Most of the coca cultivation in the area is being carried out by farmers (80 per cent) and the remaining 20 per cent by big land owners utilizing the land solely for coca cultivation.

The project has permitted to divert the attention of farmers from coca to other crops largely due to the dramatic reduction in the prices of coca. No eradication activities had been carried out by the Government since the inception of the project. However, police has been destroying clandestine coca basuco laboratories in project areas.

The project philosophy is based on close participation of farmers in the implementation of the various activities. The availability of socio-economic data on the project area has enabled adequate planning process.

The physical progress of the project has been impressive (roads, agroindustrial plants, introduction of substitute crops, creation of local shops, water supply, irrigation, sanitary improvements, forming of associations, friendship groups, health care services, fish ponds, schools, house construction and cattle breeding).

The coca boom of the early 1980s had created a situation of violence and criminality which had widely destroyed the non-coca based economy in the project areas. The indisputable correlation between coca and violence is an important factor which has contributed to farmers' genuine interest to reduce their economic dependence on coca.

Assistance to Moroccan Community Seeks Better Socio-economic Conditions

To help eliminate cannabis cultivation, UNDCP is financing a pilot project in Morocco to improve the socio-economic conditions of the Azila Douar in the Issaguen commune.

The first phase of the project, which started in 1989, is due for completion in the first quarter of 1992.

The main objective of the pilot project is fourfold: to curtail the dependency by rural people on cannabis by giving them alternative sources of income, to boost the local standard of living, and to improve the services rendered to farmers.

Activities undertaken under this project include: the creation of fruit-tree plantations on an advanced industrial level; increase of the quality and quantity of animal fodder supply through the annual sowing of 60 hectares of selected forage crops such as common vetch, sorghum fodder and corn; increase of local livestock by the distribution of 100 cattle, 300 sheep and 200 goats.

The project also aims at increasing minor animal breeding activities by the distribution of poultry and bee hives (supplied with the needed breeding tools and structures); and improving the value

of farmer agricultural products.

Infrastructure assistance provided by the project aims at improving the village road access network, create a water irrigation and potable water network, realize an electric network to supply the village with electricity and to construct a dispensary.



A farmer in Azila, Morocco, receiving goats imported from France as part of UNDCP's assistance to the local community. It is expected that goat breeding will reduce the community's dependence on cannabis cultivation.



The Governor of the Moroccan Province of Al-Hoceima, H. E. Mohammed Nijari, and UNDCP Representative, William O'Hara, meet community leaders upon their arrival in the Rif region, Morocco, the site of UNDCP project to reduce cannabis cultivation.

Commission's Membership Enlarged, More Support Sought ...

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Caribbean Group; one seat for the Eastern European Group; one seat for the Western European and Others Group; and one seat to rotate between the Asian and Latin American and Caribbean Groups every four years.

The action was part of a package of 12 resolutions pertaining to international drug abuse control adopted by the Council during that session.

In a resolution on the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the Council urged all Governments to provide UNDCP with sufficient financial and political support, particularly by increasing extra-budgetary contributions, to enable the Programme to fulfill its mandate and to strengthen its technical cooperation programmes for developing countries.

With respect to the functioning of the Commission, the Council decided that the Commission should meet annually, for no more than eight working days, between the third calendar weeks of March and April.

By another resolution, the Council called on the Commission to give policy guidance to UNDCP and to review the development and implementation of the Global Programme of Action and of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan.

In other actions, the Council urged Governments to approve legislation for the control and monitoring of precursors and essential chemicals used in the production of cocaine, heroin and other illicit drugs.

It also urged Governments to give serious consideration to solving the problem of excess stocks of opiate raw materials held by the traditional supplier countries, and requested the World Health Organization (WHO) to develop guidelines on the rational use of opiates and on the treatment of conditions for which opiates may be prescribed, with a view to assisting Governments in evolving national policy.

In the context of socio-economic and cultural development in the Near and Middle East, the Council requested the Secretary-General to undertake, as a matter of high priority, several activities in close cooperation with the Arab Security Studies

and Training Centre, the Colombo Plan Bureau, the International Criminal Police Organization and other interested Parties.

Addressing the Council for the first time as UNDCP Executive Director, Giorgio Giacomelli reported on the outcome of the thirty-fourth regular session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs held in Vienna from 29 April to 9 May 1991. He outlined the thrust of the main resolutions adopted by the Commission and the draft resolutions recommended to the Council for approval.

He reviewed the status of adherence to the international drug control treaties and provided an overview of the operational activities undertaken by the Fund for Drug Abuse Control in 1990.

During that year, he noted the Fund had provided assistance to 67 countries through 118 specific drug control programmes. Twenty new country programmes were added in the course of that year, most of the new ones were carried out in Africa and the Caribbean. However, the Fund's major assistance continued to be concentrated in Latin America and in South East and South West Asia.

He added that the Fund had also supported over 40 regional and global projects executed by other entities of the United Nations system, as well as by other international organizations such as the International Criminal Police Organization, the Customs Co-operation Council and the Drug Control Commission of the Organization of American States.

For 1991, the Fund has developed an estimated budget of some US\$ 71 million, of which \$ 64.5 million, or 91 %, is for technical cooperation activities. The remainder, about 9 %, is being set aside for administrative, personnel and programme development costs.

The Executive Director said that it was encouraging to note that in 1990 \$41.5 million of new pledges were received, compared to about \$29 million in 1989. It was however noteworthy that most of these contributions came, as in previous years, from a very small number of countries. While 53 countries contributed to the Fund last year, more than 90 % of these new contributions were made by

just nine Governments.

If UNDCP is to support expanded technical cooperation activities, he said, clearly the number of Governments providing significant contributions must be greatly increased.

In addition, the Executive Director addressed the question of the administrative arrangements between the International Narcotics Control Board and UNDCP, as well as the setting up of a single United Nations structure for drug abuse control.

Introducing the report of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) for 1990, Oskar Schroeder, President of the Board, noted that a number of positive developments had emerged during that year, including the stabilization or even decrease in the abuse of some drugs in several countries.

He welcomed the entry into force, in November 1990, of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances which had given a new impetus to concerted action to combat money-laundering and to control precursors and essential chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.

The Council took note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1990.

NGO Committee Plans Worldwide Directory

The Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs met at the Vienna International Centre on 4 November 1991.

On the agenda was a discussion on the preparations for the thirty-fifth session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the activities to be undertaken by the Committee in 1992.

On the first point, the representatives for the different NGOs discussed the submission of a joint report on their activities to the session of the Commission taking place in April 1992.

Among the activities for next year, the NGO's Committee presented a project for the preparation of a directory of NGOs involved in drug abuse control, covering more than 600 organizations worldwide.

Regional Meeting ...

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measures taken at the national and international levels to implement the recommendations of the Third HONLAC meeting, held in Aruba in September 1990.

Emphasis was also put on law enforcement training and on steps contemplated to apply provisionally, ratify or accede to the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

The meeting set up working groups which made a series of recommendations pertaining to the following subjects: problems related to the production of, trafficking in and consumption of cocaine; control of precursors and essential chemicals, exchange of operational experience in such control, problems arising and corrective measures.

Other working groups dealt with the illicit traffic by sea; problems relating to tracing and forfeiture of assets as provided for in article 5 of the 1988 Convention; and drug law enforcement training strategy and procedures.

Attending were representatives of Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Also present were observers from Aruba, Cayman Islands, Holy See, South American Agreement on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (ASEP), and Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States (CICAD/OAS).

Narcotic Division's Last Director Retires

Francisco Ramos-Galino (Spain), Director of the Division of Narcotic Drugs (DND) since 1 January 1988, retired on 31 August 1991 after 33 years of service with the United Nations.

Mr. Ramos-Galino, who joined the UN secretariat in 1958, held various posts in New York, Santiago (Chile) and Geneva.

Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, in the presence of UNDCP Executive Director Giorgio Giacomelli, received on 23 October 1991 in New York the final report on International Drug Policy prepared by the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA).

Commenting on the report entitled "New Approaches for Controlling Narcotic Drugs", Mr. Giacomelli warmly commended the effort of the UNA-USA, adding that the substance of the report was in accordance with the policies of UNDCP.

He further stated that he was encouraged by the fact that the report reflected the fruits of grass-roots consultations involving 32 of the Associations Chapters and Divisions representing a broad cross-section of the public.

John C. Whitehead, Chairman of UNA-USA, said his Association felt that the time was propitious for the encouragement of a more informed public debate

on the direction in which the United States and the world community might head in formulating an effective international drug policy.

The report stressed that curtailing demand - the popular appetite for psychotropic substances - was the most urgent and productive approach for suppressing dangerous drugs and requested UNDCP, among other things, to expand training for narcotic agents, customs officials and other relevant police officers on a regional basis and proposed that a major share of US resources for law enforcement training should be put at the disposal of UNDCP.

The report recommended that by 1994, UN drug control efforts should be funded at a US\$ 200 million level and urged the United States to offer to increase substantially its voluntary contribution to the UNDCP if the Europeans and Japanese do the same. Such a development would be seen as a major new investment, internationally, in drug control efforts.

Workshop on Drug Use and HIV Infection Emphasizes Preventive Measures

An international workshop on drug use and HIV infection was held in Chiang Mai (Thailand) from 7 to 11 October 1991 to enhance coordination between programmes responsible for the prevention of HIV infection and those dealing with drug demand reduction. It was organized by WHO Global Programme on AIDS.

Participants stressed the importance of including education on AIDS and drug abuse in the school curricula, adding that priority should be given to high-risk areas.

In this context, innovative HIV pre-

vention and drug demand reduction programmes were reviewed. It was noted that the involvement of former drug users in such programmes as peer educators might prove very efficient. These approaches should however be evaluated and successful models adopted.

The workshop urged countries to plan new projects and comprehensive services in cooperation with international organizations or programmes such as WHO, UNDCP, UNDP and ESCAP.

UNDCP was represented by Cindy Fazey, Acting Chief, Demand Reduction Section, who reported on the restructuring of UN drug-related entities and outlined the Programme's demand reduction activities.

Reports from the participating countries indicated a rapid spread of the HIV infection and the dangerous trend from smoking opium to injecting heroin, coupled with a very risky habit of sharing needles. Attending were participants from China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

Calendar of Events

Government authorities, agencies and bodies within the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as research and other specialized associations are invited to forward to the Executive Director, United Nations International Drug Control Programme, Vienna International Centre, P.O. Box 500, A-1400 Vienna, Austria, information on forthcoming meetings relating to international drug control. Basic data on international events will be published as appropriate in the UNDCP's Information Letter, which is distributed worldwide. This information is intended to assist entities within the United Nations system, as well as other concerned organizations, in scheduling meetings, exchanging results and enhancing co-ordination. The timely receipt of comprehensive information on planned events will be appreciated and greatly assist in the preparation of Calendars of Events.

United Nations System

1991

25-29 November	UNDCP: Sub-Commission on Illicit Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, 28th session.	Teheran
2-6 December	UNDCP: Expert Group Meeting on Clandestine Laboratory Operations and the Role of Forensic Chemistry in the Control of Precursors.	Seoul

1992

6-10 January	International Narcotics Control Board, 51st session.	Vienna
24-25 February	UNDCP: Sub-Commission on Illicit Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, 29th session.	Vienna
26-28 February	UNDCP: Working Group on Investigation Guidelines to Prevent Diversion of Precursors.	Vienna
6-15 April	UNDCP: Commission on Narcotic Drugs, 35th regular session.	Vienna
16 April	UNDCP: Inter-agency Meeting on Coordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control.	Vienna
4-15 May	International Narcotics Control Board, 52nd session.	Vienna
18-22 May	UNDCP: Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLAF), Africa.	Abuja, Nigeria

Intergovernmental Organizations

1992

2-6 March	Customs Co-operation Council: Law Enforcement Committee, 11th session.	Brussels
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Non-governmental Organizations

1991

10 December	NGO Committee on Narcotics and Substance Abuse.	New York
16 December	Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs.	Vienna

1992

27 April-2 May	National Parents' Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE): 15th Annual PRIDE World Drug Conference.	Houston, U.S.A.
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